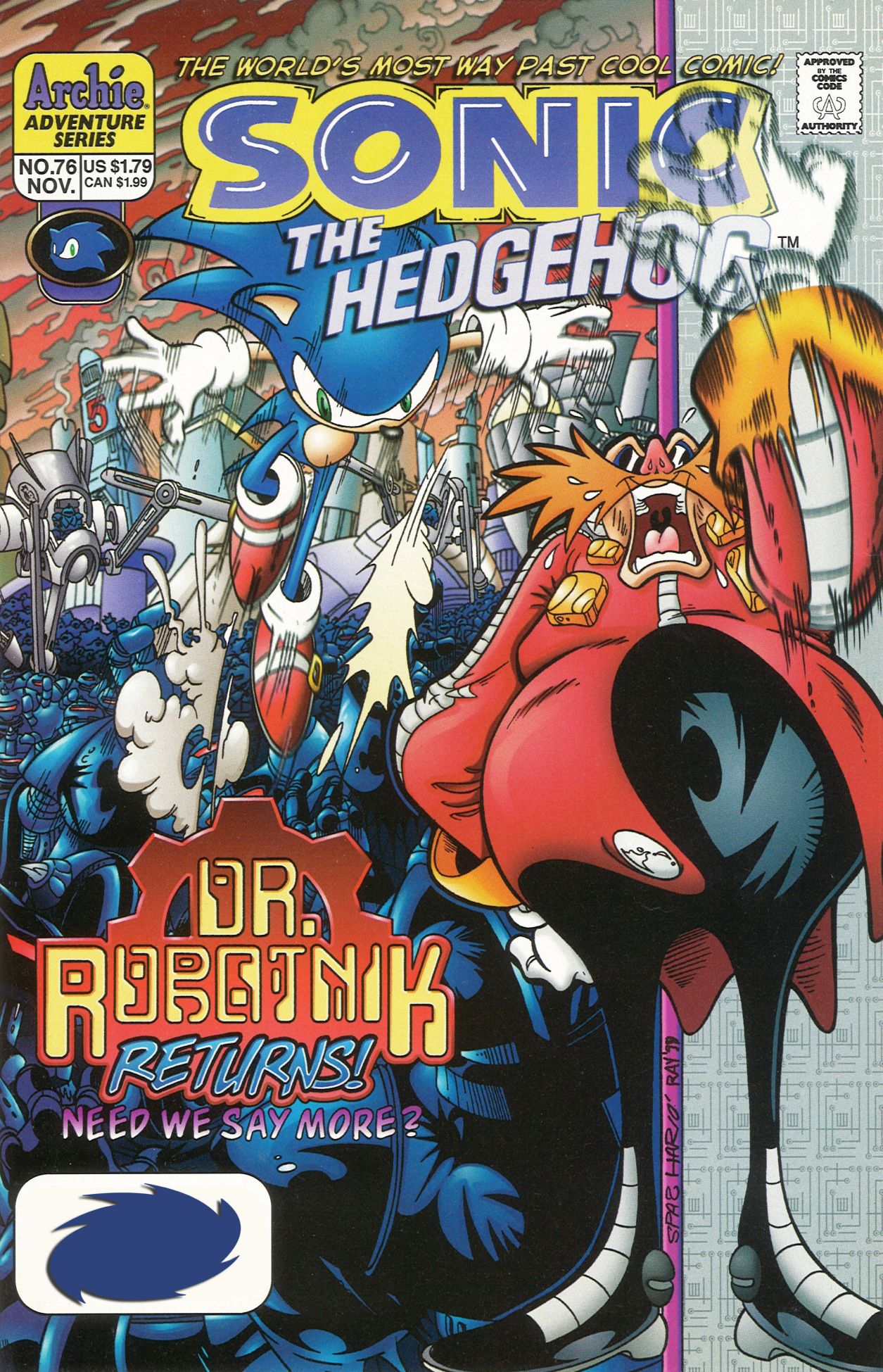
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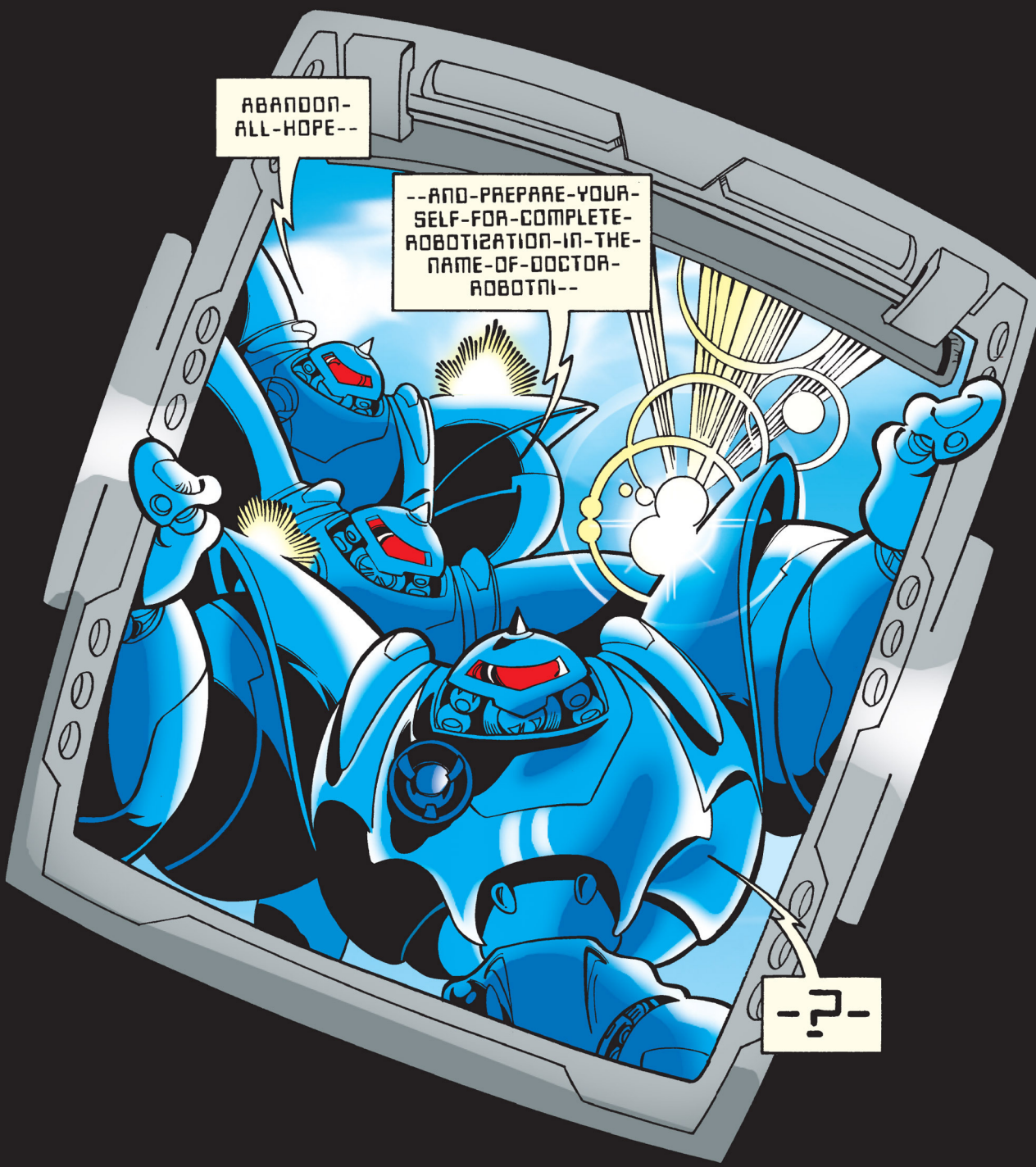
THE HEDGEHOG™
DR. ROBOTNIK RETURNS!
NEED WE SAY MORE?

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his smelly factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ***ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!***



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BUSINESS AS USUAL

CHAPTER ONE

KARL BOLLERS — WRITER
FRY — PENCILER
ANDREW PEPOY — INKER
JEFF POWELL — LETTERER
FRANK GAGLIARDO — COLORIST
J. F. GABRIE — EDITOR / ART DIRECTOR
VICTOR GORELICK — MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER — EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

THE-VESSEL-APPEARS-TO-BE-EMPTY.-THE-HEDGEHOG-AND-THE-OTHER-LIFE-FORMS-HAVE-FLED.

FIND-THEM.

WE'VE GOT TO GET *OUT* OF HERE-- THIS PLACE IS OVERRUN BY THOSE "*SUPER SHADOW-BOTS!*" LOOKS LIKE RETURNING TO *MOBOTROPOLIS* WASN'T SUCH A GOOD *IDEA.*

THE ENTIRE *CITY* HAS BEEN DESERTED BUT THEY *COULDN'T* HAVE POSSIBLY CAUGHT EVERYONE-- *COULD* THEY, *NICOLE?*

Negative, PRINCESS SALLY--it is more than likely that the POPULACE relocated to KNOTHOLE VILLAGE for their own safety.

KNOTHOLE VILLAGE?! ARE THEY UTTERLY *DERANGED?* THERE'S NO SAFETY *THERE!* ROBOTNIK IS SURE TO HAVE *A FILE* THAT DIRECTLY PINPOINTS ITS *LOCATION!*

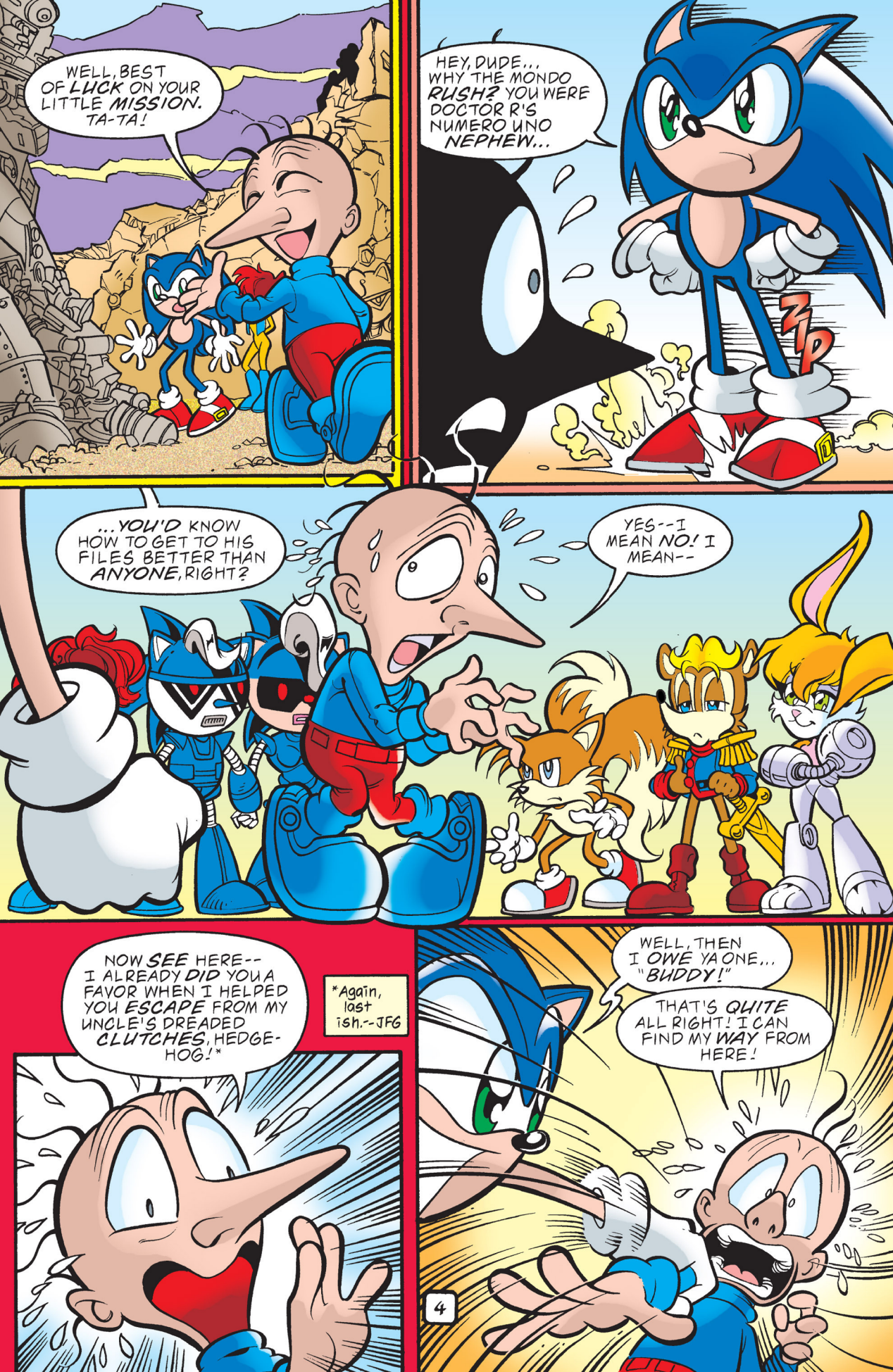
JUST A SEC, *SNIVELY!* DIDN'T RO"*BUTT*"NIK BITE THE BIG ONE WHEN HIS SATELLITE WENT *KABLOOEY?**

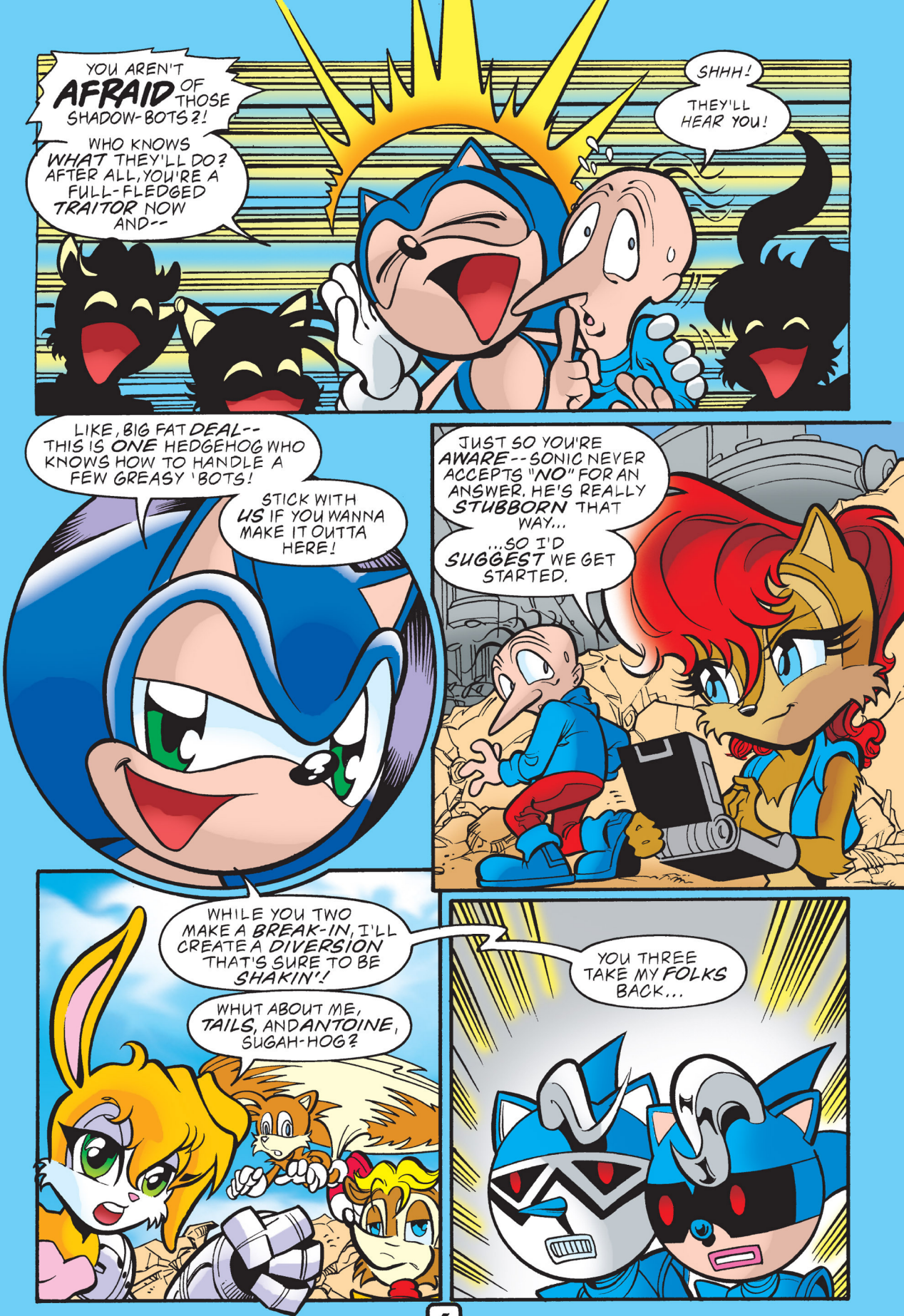
"BITE THE BIG ONE?" IF YOU *BELIEVE* HE'S SHUFFLED OFF THIS MOBIAN *COIL*, SONIC, THINK *AGAIN!* REMEMBER, HE'S ROBOTICIZED...

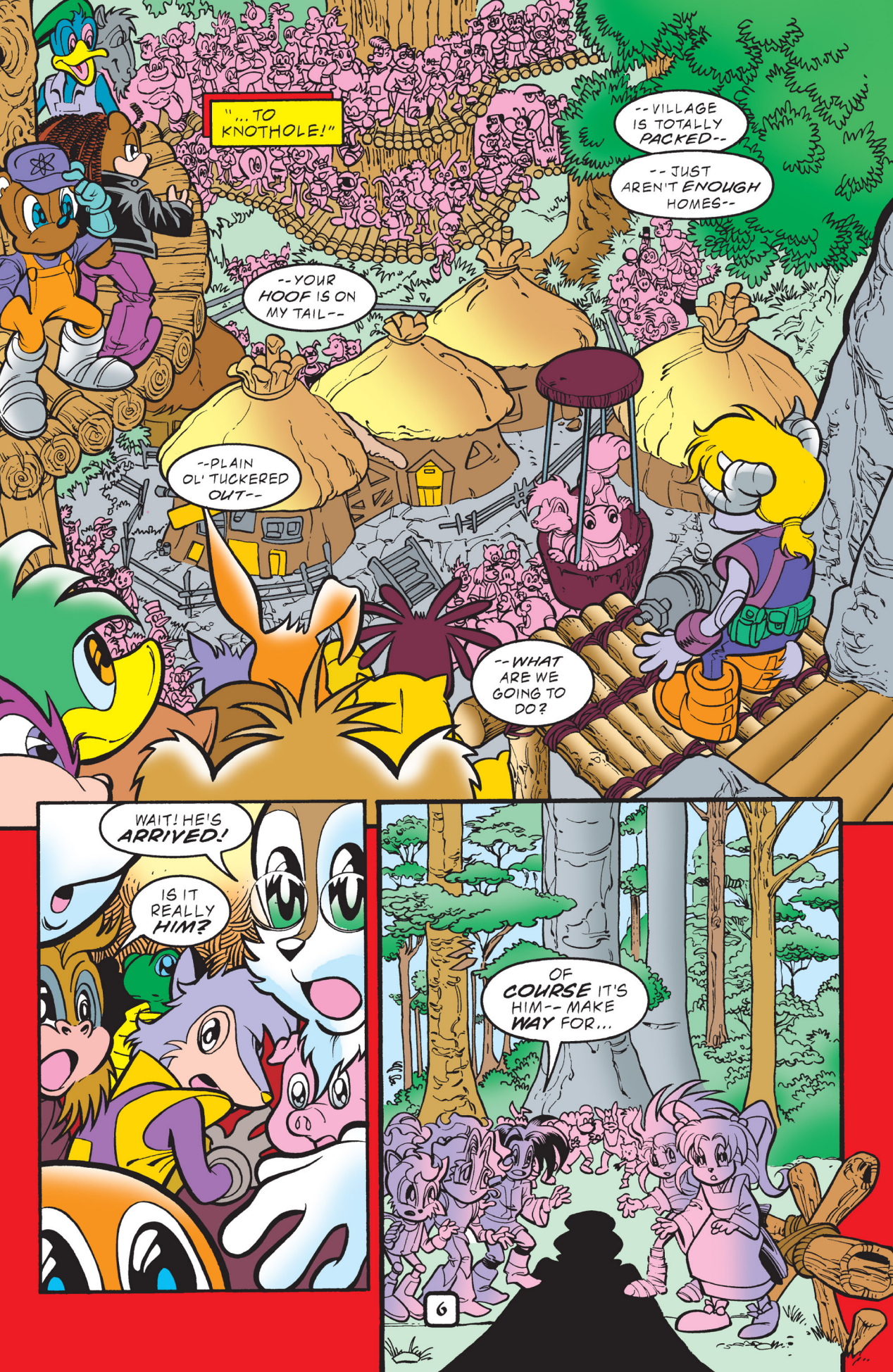
...AND NO DOUBT DOWNLOADED HIS *MEMORY* INTO AN *ARTIFICAL* BODY BY NOW!

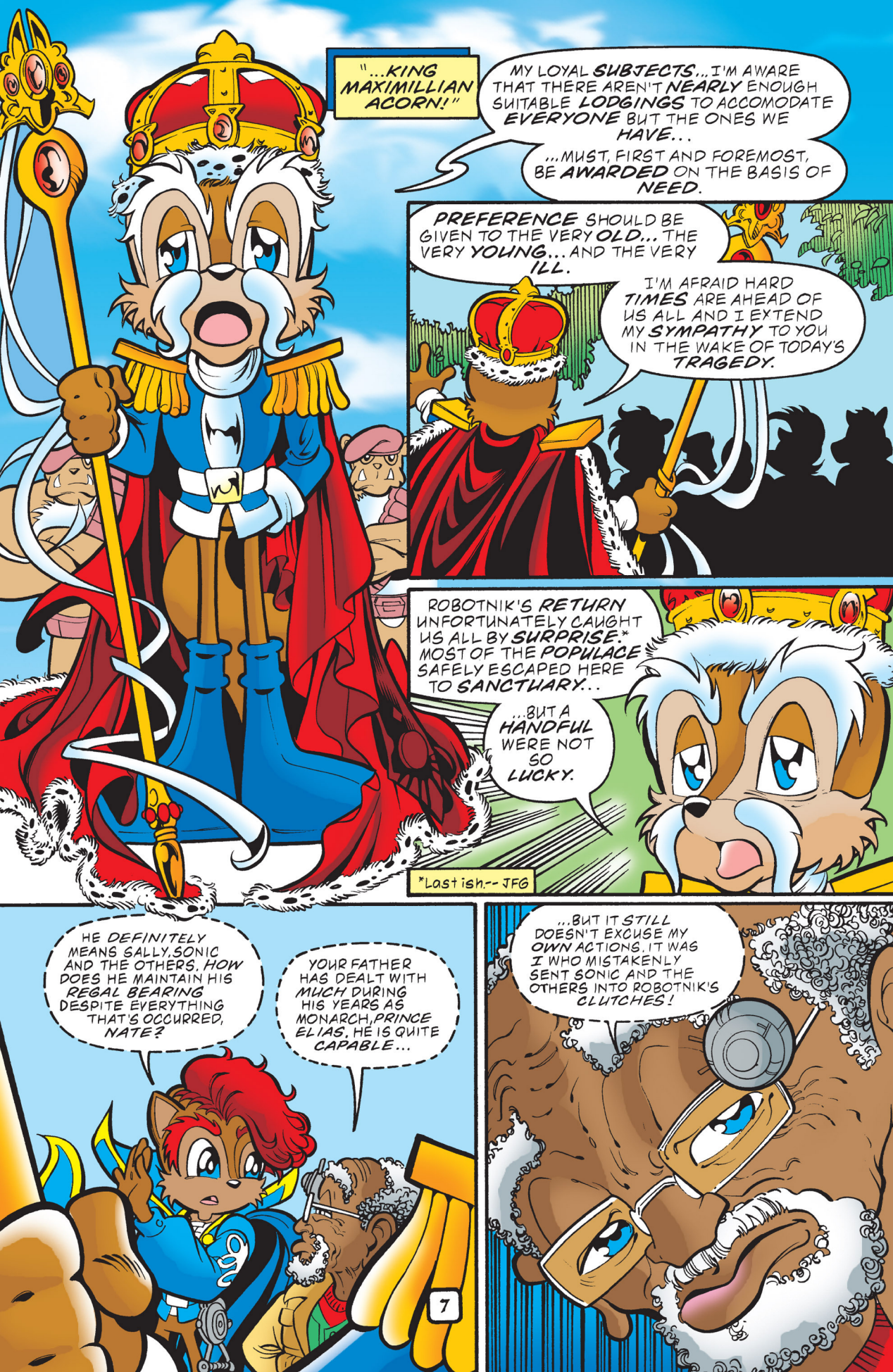
*Last issue.--JFG

THEN IT'S UP TO US TO *PREVENT* HIM FROM ACCESSING THAT FILE!

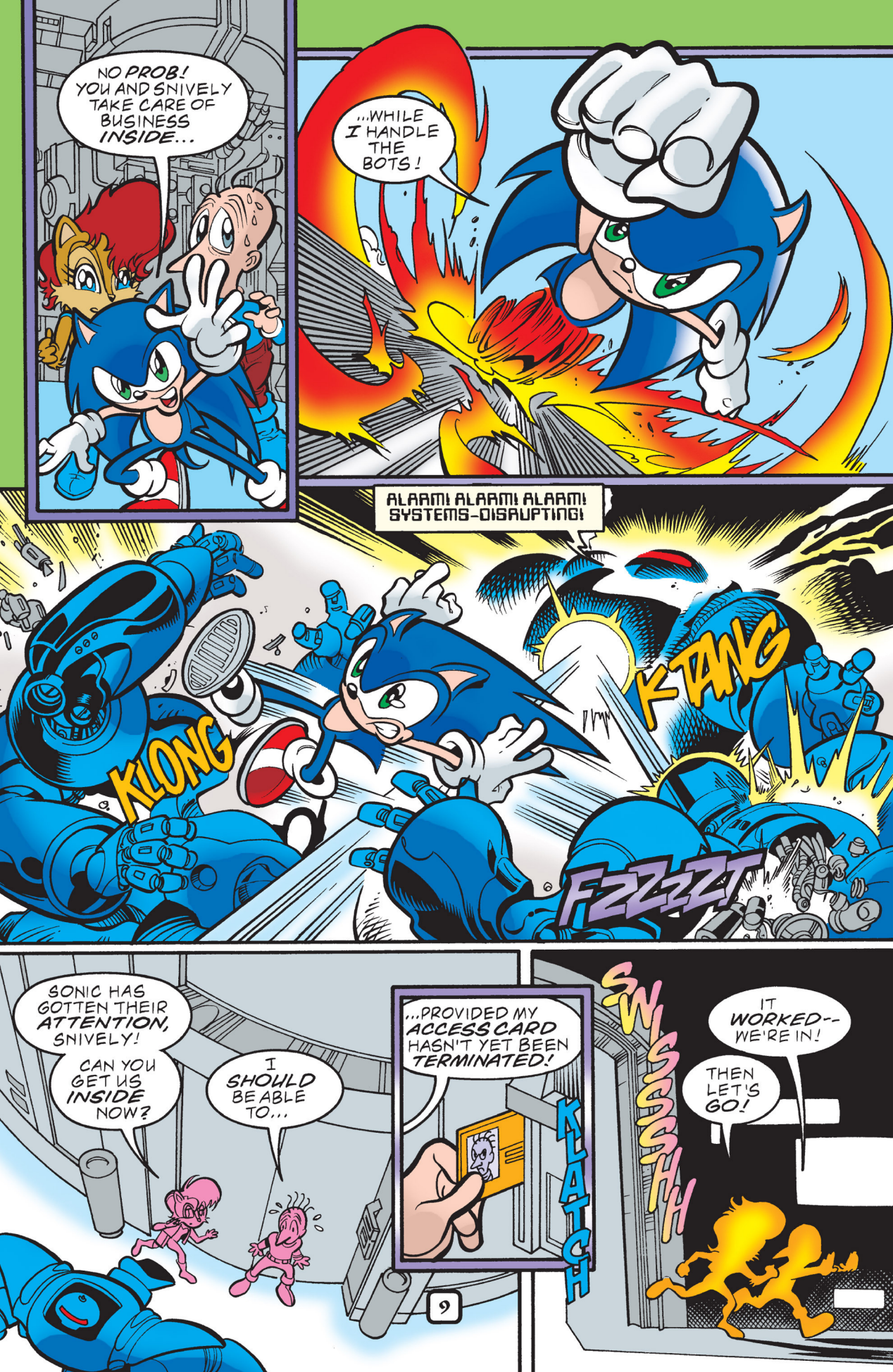

WELL, BEST OF LUCK ON YOUR LITTLE MISSION. TA-TA!
HEY, DUDE... WHY THE MONDO RUSH? YOU WERE DOCTOR R'S NUMERO UNO NEPHEW...
ZIP
...YOU'D KNOW HOW TO GET TO HIS FILES BETTER THAN ANYONE, RIGHT?
YES--I MEAN NO! I MEAN--
NOW SEE HERE-- I ALREADY DID YOU A FAVOR WHEN I HELPED YOU ESCAPE FROM MY UNCLE'S DREADED CLUTCHES, HEDGE-HOG!*
*Again, last ish.--JFG
WELL, THEN I OWE YA ONE... "BUDDY!"
THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT! I CAN FIND MY WAY FROM HERE!

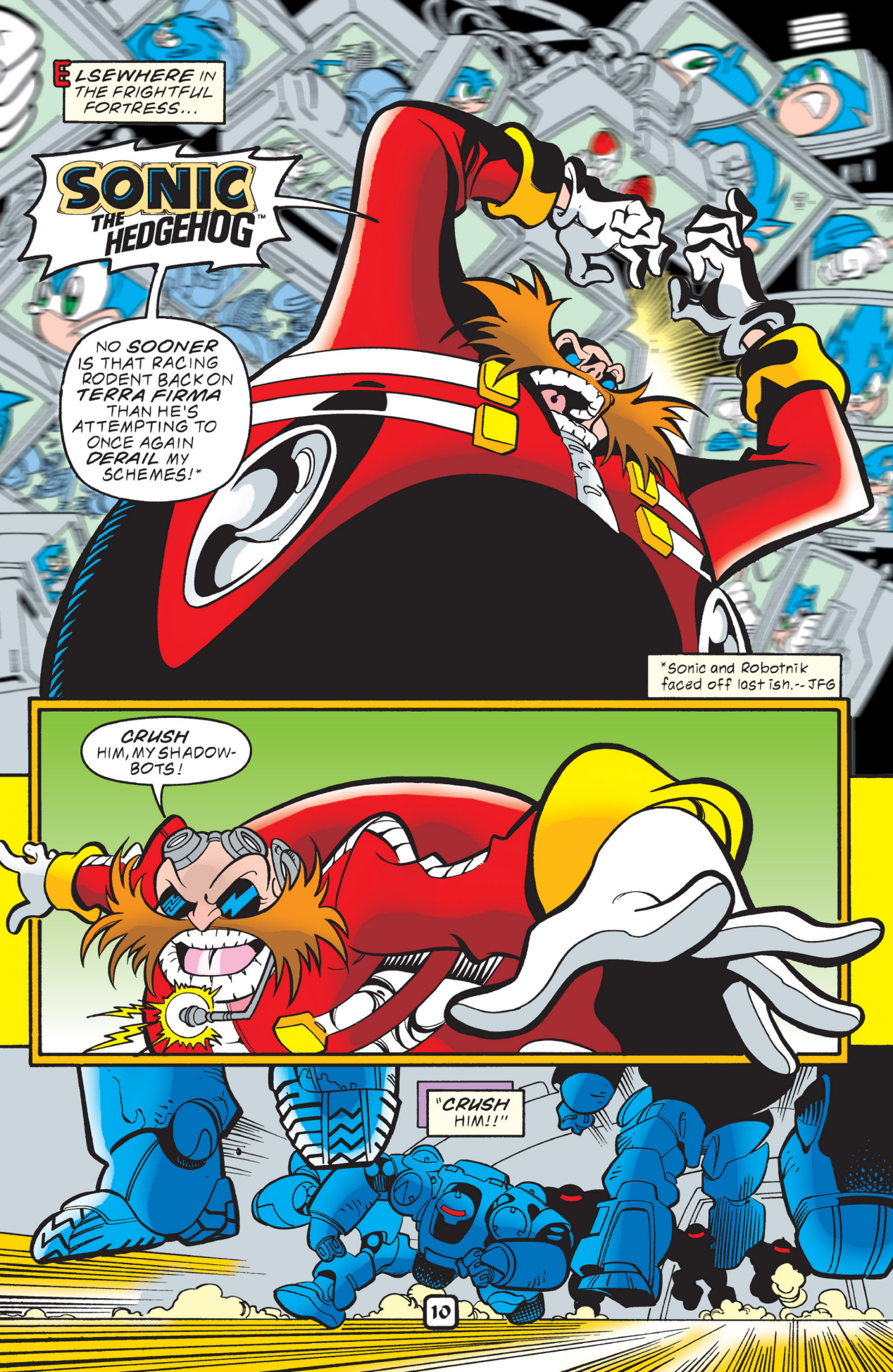

YOU AREN'T AFRAID OF THOSE SHADOW-BOTS?!
WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'LL DO? AFTER ALL, YOU'RE A FULL-FLEDGED TRAITOR NOW AND--
SHHH!
THEY'LL HEAR YOU!
LIKE, BIG FAT DEAL-- THIS IS ONE HEDGEHOG WHO KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE A FEW GREASY 'BOTS!
STICK WITH US IF YOU WANNA MAKE IT OUTTA HERE!
JUST SO YOU'RE AWARE-- SONIC NEVER ACCEPTS "NO" FOR AN ANSWER. HE'S REALLY STUBBORN THAT WAY...
...SO I'D SUGGEST WE GET STARTED.
WHILE YOU TWO MAKE A BREAK-IN, I'LL CREATE A DIVERSION THAT'S SURE TO BE SHAKIN'!
WHUT ABOUT ME, TAILS, AND ANTOINE, SUGAH-HOG?
YOU THREE TAKE MY FOLKS BACK...

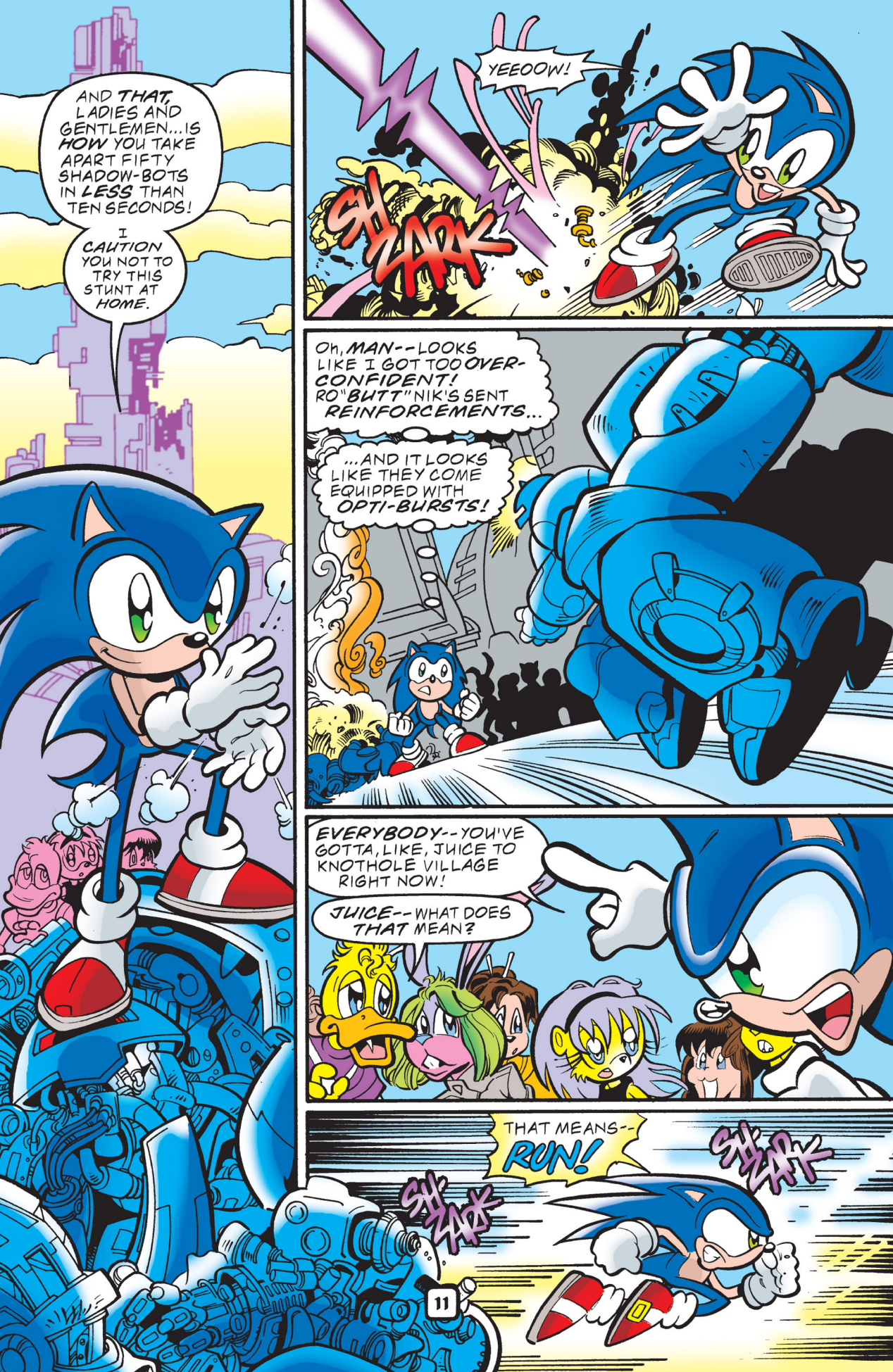

"...TO KNOTHOLE!"
--VILLAGE IS TOTALLY PACKED--
--JUST AREN'T ENOUGH HOMES--
--YOUR HOOF IS ON MY TAIL--
--PLAIN OL' TUCKERED OUT--
--WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
WAIT! HE'S ARRIVED!
IS IT REALLY HIM?
OF COURSE IT'S HIM-- MAKE WAY FOR...
6

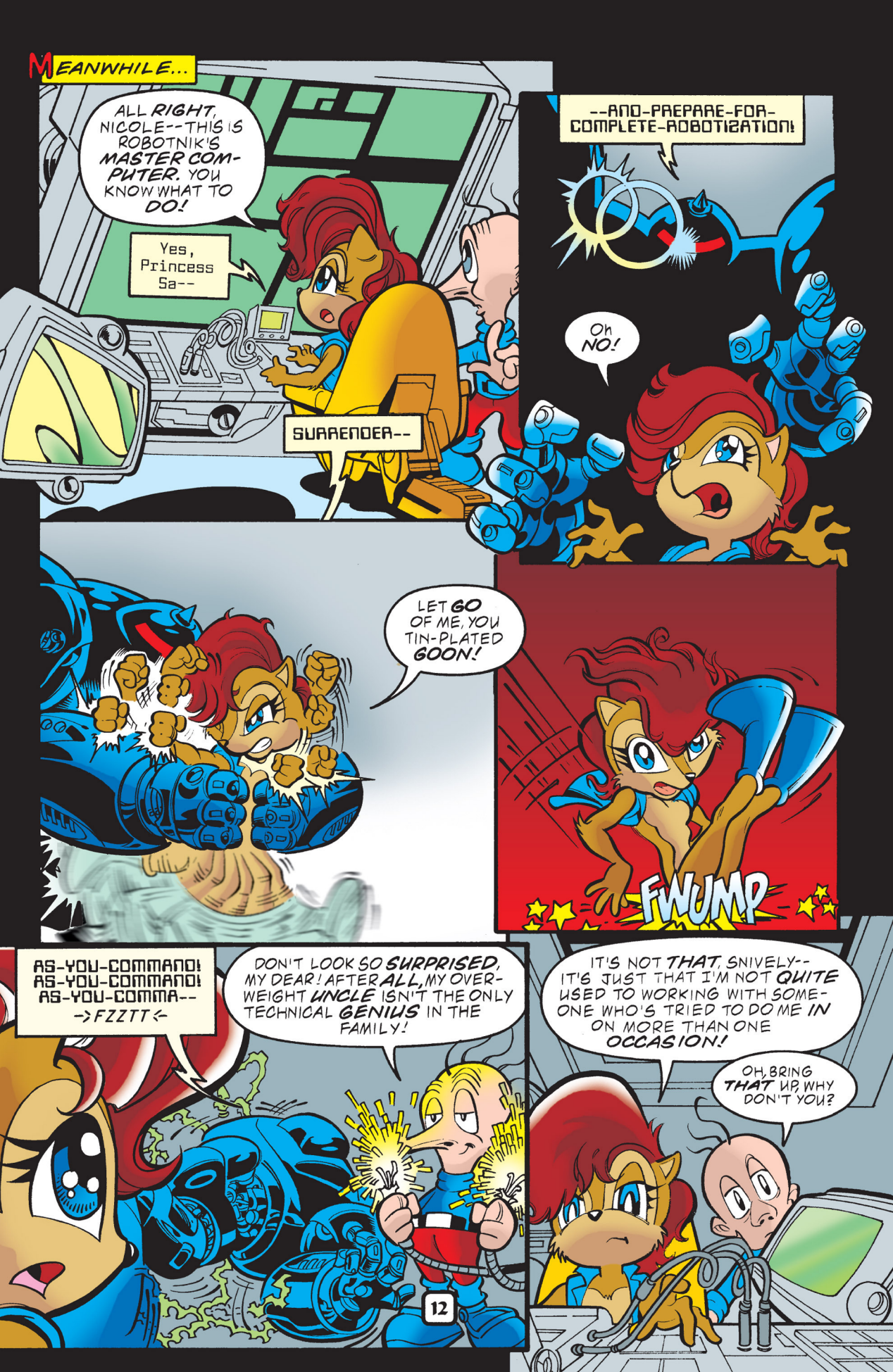

"...KING MAXIMILLIAN ACORN!"
MY LOYAL SUBJECTS... I'M AWARE THAT THERE AREN'T NEARLY ENOUGH SUITABLE LODGINGS TO ACCOMODATE EVERYONE BUT THE ONES WE HAVE...
...MUST, FIRST AND FOREMOST, BE AWARDED ON THE BASIS OF NEED.
PREFERENCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE VERY OLD... THE VERY YOUNG... AND THE VERY ILL.
I'M AFRAID HARD TIMES ARE AHEAD OF US ALL AND I EXTEND MY SYMPATHY TO YOU IN THE WAKE OF TODAY'S TRAGEDY.
ROBOTNIK'S RETURN UNFORTUNATELY CAUGHT US ALL BY SURPRISE.* MOST OF THE POPULACE SAFELY ESCAPED HERE TO SANCTUARY...
...BUT A HANDFUL WERE NOT SO LUCKY.
*Last ish.-- JFG
HE DEFINITELY MEANS SALLY, SONIC AND THE OTHERS. HOW DOES HE MAINTAIN HIS REGAL BEARING DESPITE EVERYTHING THAT'S OCCURRED, NATE?
YOUR FATHER HAS DEALT WITH MUCH DURING HIS YEARS AS MONARCH, PRINCE ELIAS, HE IS QUITE CAPABLE...
...BUT IT STILL DOESN'T EXCUSE MY OWN ACTIONS. IT WAS I WHO MISTAKENLY SENT SONIC AND THE OTHERS INTO ROBOTNIK'S CLUTCHES!
7

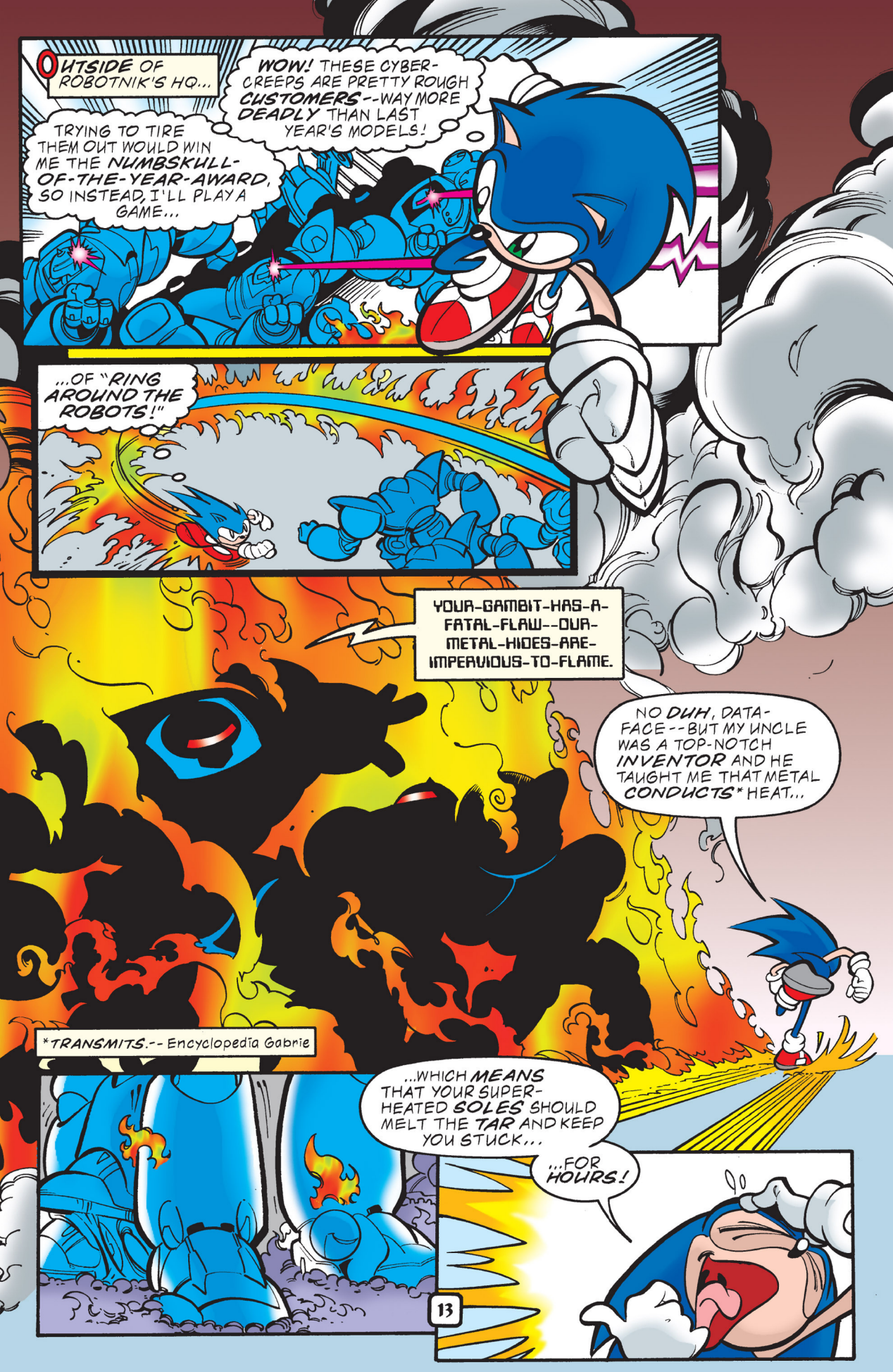
ROBOTROPOLIS...
BUSINESS AS USUAL
CHAPTER TWO
YOW, SAL-- THERE'S A WHOLE BUNCH O' SHADOW-BOTS IN FRONT OF THE ENTRANCE TO ROBOTNIK'S HQ!
I SEE THEM, SONIC--AND THEY'RE TAKING PRISONERS! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

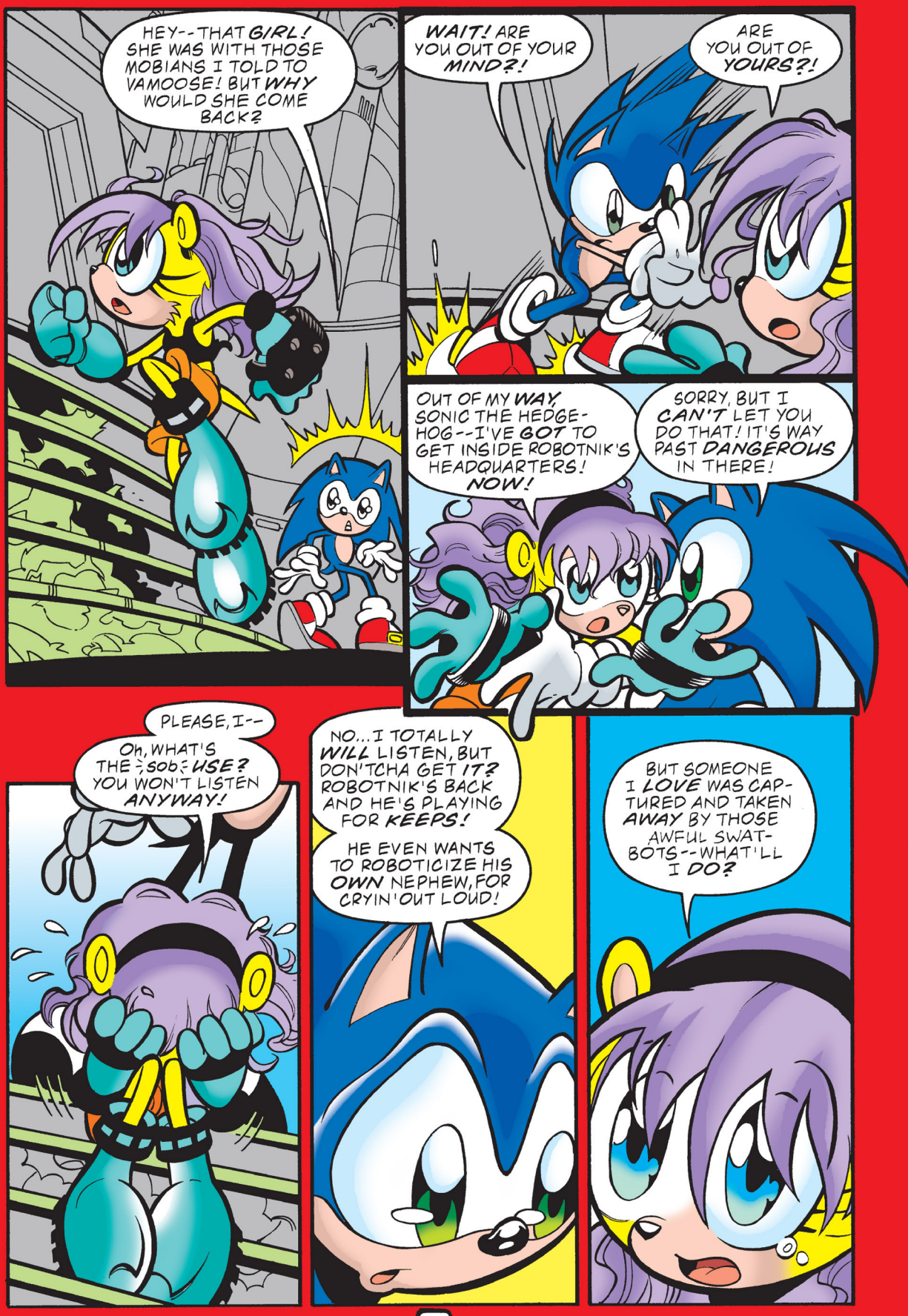

NO PROB! YOU AND SNIVELY TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS INSIDE...
...WHILE I HANDLE THE BOTS!
ALARM! ALARM! ALARM! SYSTEMS-DISRUPTING!
KLONG
KTANG
FZZZZT
SONIC HAS GOTTEN THEIR ATTENTION, SNIVELY!
CAN YOU GET US INSIDE NOW?
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO...
...PROVIDED MY ACCESS CARD HASN'T YET BEEN TERMINATED!
KLATCH
SWISSSHH
IT WORKED-- WE'RE IN!
THEN LET'S GO!
9

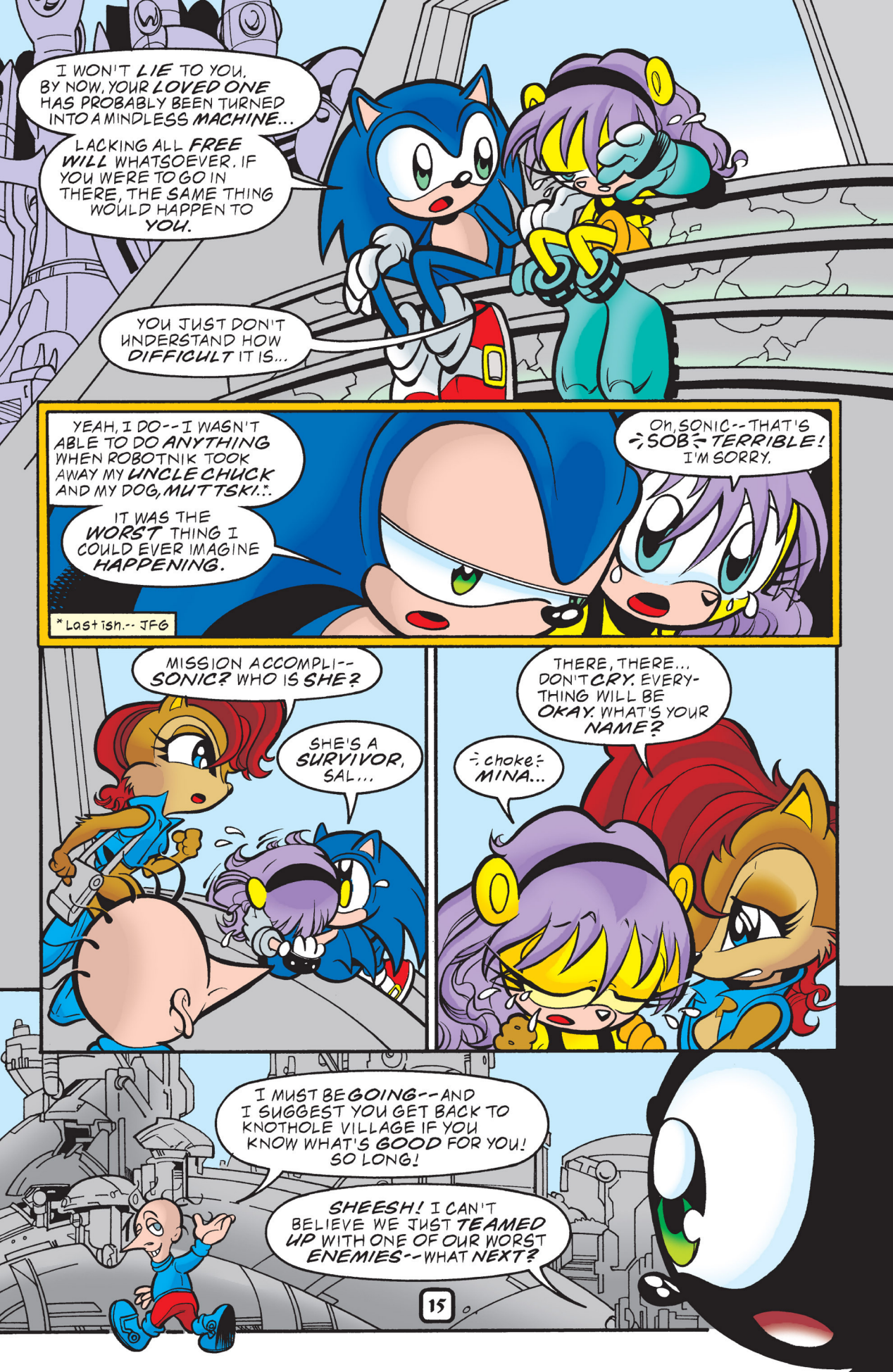

ELSEWHERE IN THE FRIGHTFUL FORTRESS...
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
NO SOONER IS THAT RACING RODENT BACK ON TERRA FIRMA THAN HE'S ATTEMPTING TO ONCE AGAIN DERAIL MY SCHEMES!*
*Sonic and Robotnik faced off last ish.--JFG
CRUSH HIM, MY SHADOW-BOTS!
"CRUSH HIM!!"

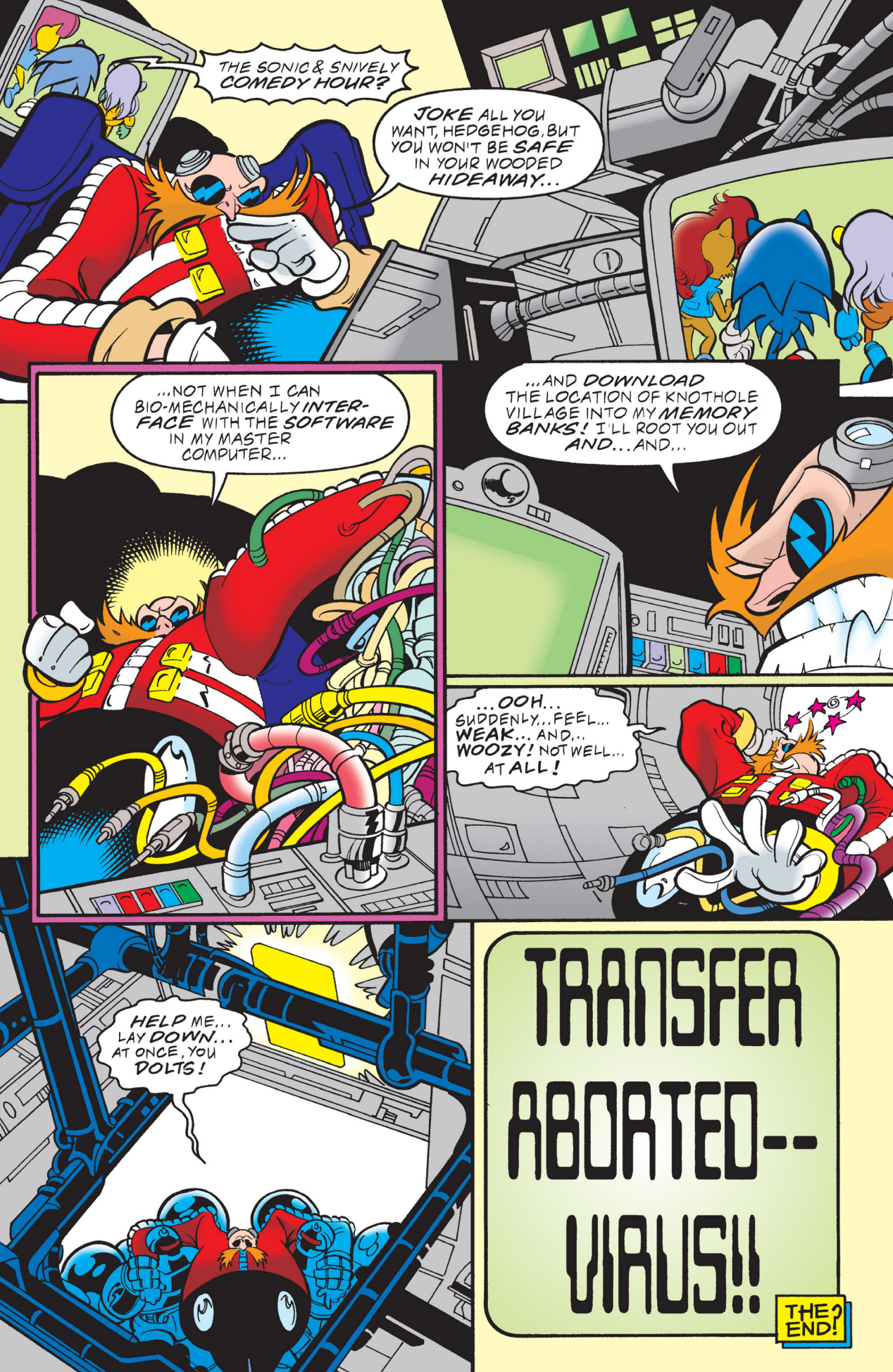

AND THAT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... IS HOW YOU TAKE APART FIFTY SHADOW-BOTS IN LESS THAN TEN SECONDS!
I CAUTION YOU NOT TO TRY THIS STUNT AT HOME.
YEEOOW!
SH-ZAAK
Oh, MAN--LOOKS LIKE I GOT TOO OVER-CONFIDENT! RO"BUTT"NIK'S SENT REINFORCEMENTS...
...AND IT LOOKS LIKE THEY COME EQUIPPED WITH OPTI-BURSTS!
EVERYBODY--YOU'VE GOTTA, LIKE, JUICE TO KNOTHOLE VILLAGE RIGHT NOW!
JUICE--WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
THAT MEANS--RUN!
SH-ZAAK
SH-ZAAK

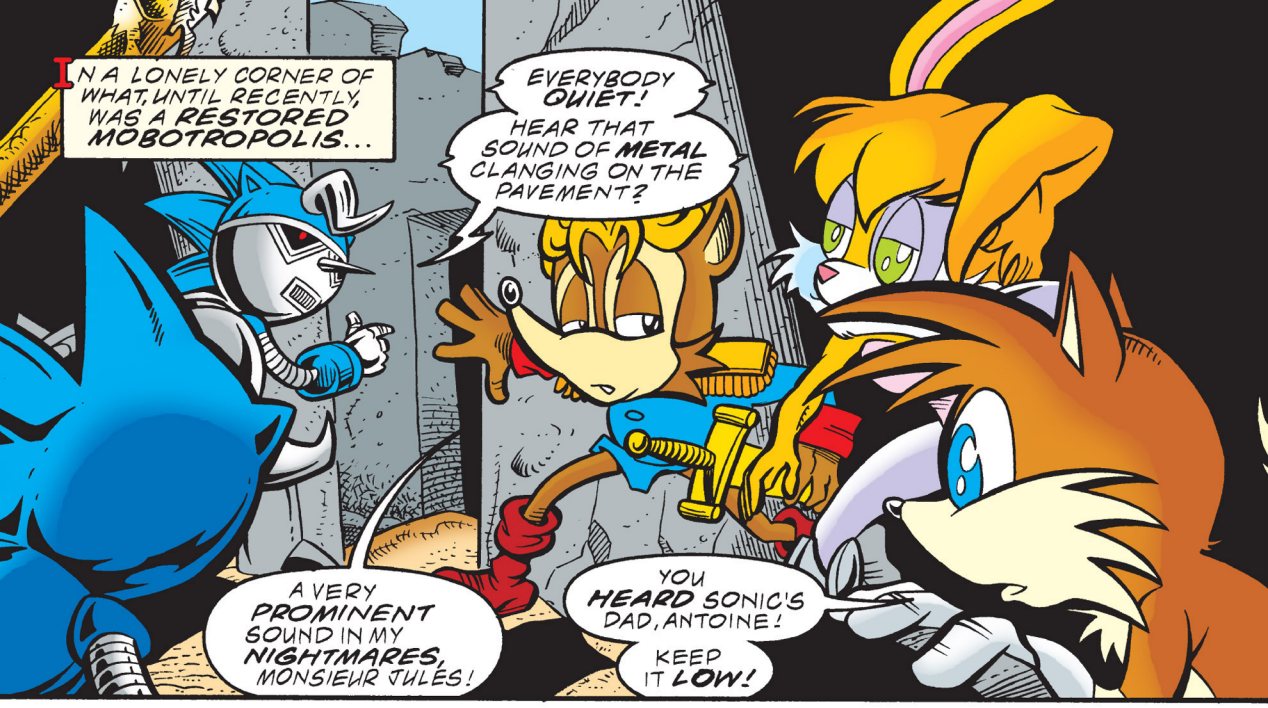

MEANWHILE...
ALL RIGHT, NICOLE--THIS IS ROBOTNIK'S MASTER COMPUTER. YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!
Yes, Princess Sa--
SURRENDER--
--AND-PREPARE-FOR-COMPLETE-ROBOTIZATION!
Oh NO!
LET GO OF ME, YOU TIN-PLATED GOON!
FWUMP
AS-YOU-COMMAND! AS-YOU-COMMAND! AS-YOU-COMMA--
->FZZTT<-
DON'T LOOK SO SURPRISED, MY DEAR! AFTER ALL, MY OVERWEIGHT UNCLE ISN'T THE ONLY TECHNICAL GENIUS IN THE FAMILY!
IT'S NOT THAT, SNIVELY--IT'S JUST THAT I'M NOT QUITE USED TO WORKING WITH SOMEONE WHO'S TRIED TO DO ME IN ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION!
OH, BRING THAT UP, WHY DON'T YOU?
12


OUTSIDE OF ROBOTNIK'S HQ...
WOW! THESE CYBER-CREEPS ARE PRETTY ROUGH CUSTOMERS--WAY MORE DEADLY THAN LAST YEAR'S MODELS!
TRYING TO TIRE THEM OUT WOULD WIN ME THE NUMBSKULL-OF-THE-YEAR-AWARD, SO INSTEAD, I'LL PLAY A GAME...
...OF "RING AROUND THE ROBOTS!"
YOUR-GAMBIT-HAS-A-FATAL-FLAW--OUR-METAL-HIDES-ARE-IMPERVIOUS-TO-FLAME.
NO DUH, DATA-FACE--BUT MY UNCLE WAS A TOP-NOTCH INVENTOR AND HE TAUGHT ME THAT METAL CONDUCTS* HEAT...
*TRANSMITS.-- Encyclopedia Gabnie
...WHICH MEANS THAT YOUR SUPER-HEATED SOLES SHOULD MELT THE TAR AND KEEP YOU STUCK...
...FOR HOURS!


HEY--THAT GIRL! SHE WAS WITH THOSE MOBIANS I TOLD TO VAMOOSE! BUT WHY WOULD SHE COME BACK?
WAIT! ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOURS?!
OUT OF MY WAY, SONIC THE HEDGE-HOG--I'VE GOT TO GET INSIDE ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS! NOW!
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT! IT'S WAY PAST DANGEROUS IN THERE!
PLEASE, I--
Oh, WHAT'S THE ;sob; USE? YOU WON'T LISTEN ANYWAY!
NO... I TOTALLY WILL LISTEN, BUT DON'TCHA GET IT? ROBOTNIK'S BACK AND HE'S PLAYING FOR KEEPS!
HE EVEN WANTS TO ROBOTICIZE HIS OWN NEPHEW, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!
BUT SOMEONE I LOVE WAS CAP-TURED AND TAKEN AWAY BY THOSE AWFUL SWAT-BOTS--WHAT'LL I DO?


I WON'T LIE TO YOU. BY NOW, YOUR LOVED ONE HAS PROBABLY BEEN TURNED INTO A MINDLESS MACHINE...
LACKING ALL FREE WILL WHATSOEVER. IF YOU WERE TO GO IN THERE, THE SAME THING WOULD HAPPEN TO YOU.
YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW DIFFICULT IT IS...
YEAH, I DO--I WASN'T ABLE TO DO ANYTHING WHEN ROBOTNIK TOOK AWAY MY UNCLE CHUCK AND MY DOG, MUTTSKI.*.
IT WAS THE WORST THING I COULD EVER IMAGINE HAPPENING.
Oh, SONIC--THAT'S -:SOB:- TERRIBLE! I'M SORRY.
*Last ish.-- JFG
MISSION ACCOMPLI-- SONIC? WHO IS SHE?
SHE'S A SURVIVOR, SAL...
THERE, THERE... DON'T CRY. EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
-:choke:- MINA...
I MUST BE GOING--AND I SUGGEST YOU GET BACK TO KNOTHOLE VILLAGE IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU! SO LONG!
SHEESH! I CAN'T BELIEVE WE JUST TEAMED UP WITH ONE OF OUR WORST ENEMIES--WHAT NEXT?


THE SONIC & SNIVELY COMEDY HOUR?
JOKE ALL YOU WANT, HEDGEHOG, BUT YOU WON'T BE SAFE IN YOUR WOODED HIDEAWAY...
...NOT WHEN I CAN BIO-MECHANICALLY INTER-FACE WITH THE SOFTWARE IN MY MASTER COMPUTER...
...AND DOWNLOAD THE LOCATION OF KNOTHOLE VILLAGE INTO MY MEMORY BANKS! I'LL ROOT YOU OUT AND... AND...
...OOH... SUDDENLY... FEEL... WEAK... AND... WOOZY! NOT WELL... AT ALL!
HELP ME... LAY DOWN... AT ONCE, YOU DOLTS!
TRANSFER ABORTED-- VIRUS!!
THE END?


IN A LONELY CORNER OF WHAT, UNTIL RECENTLY, WAS A RESTORED MOBOTROPOLIS...
EVERYBODY QUIET! HEAR THAT SOUND OF METAL CLANGING ON THE PAVEMENT?
A VERY PROMINENT SOUND IN MY NIGHTMARES, MONSIEUR JULES!
YOU HEARD SONIC'S DAD, ANTOINE! KEEP IT LOW!

TALES OF THE GREAT WAR

PART FOUR

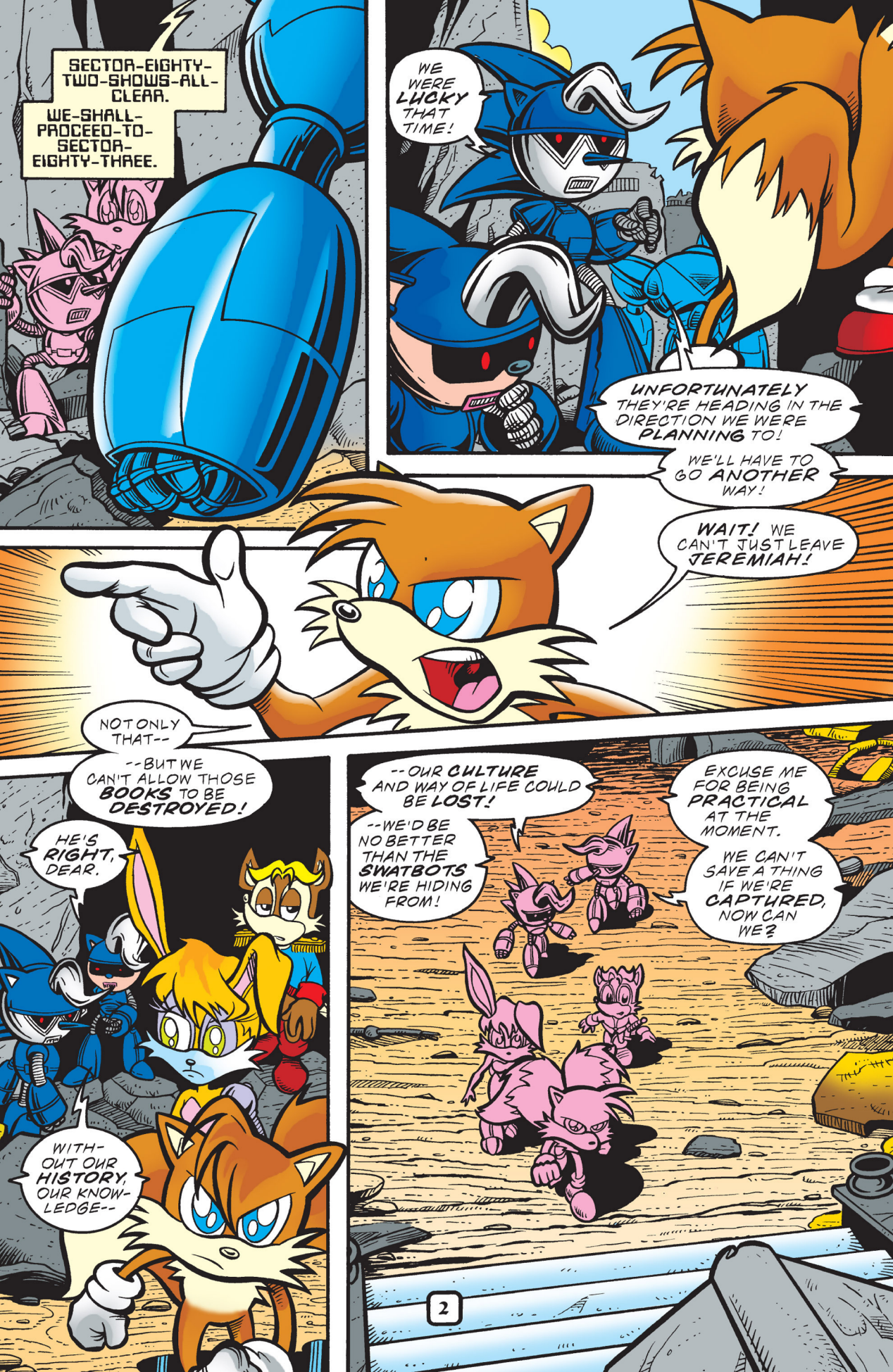
OBSERVATION: NO-SIGN-OF-LIFE-AS-OF-YET.

WE-SHALL-CONTINUE-UNTIL-OUR-MISSION-DIRECTIVE-IS-COMPLIED-WITH--

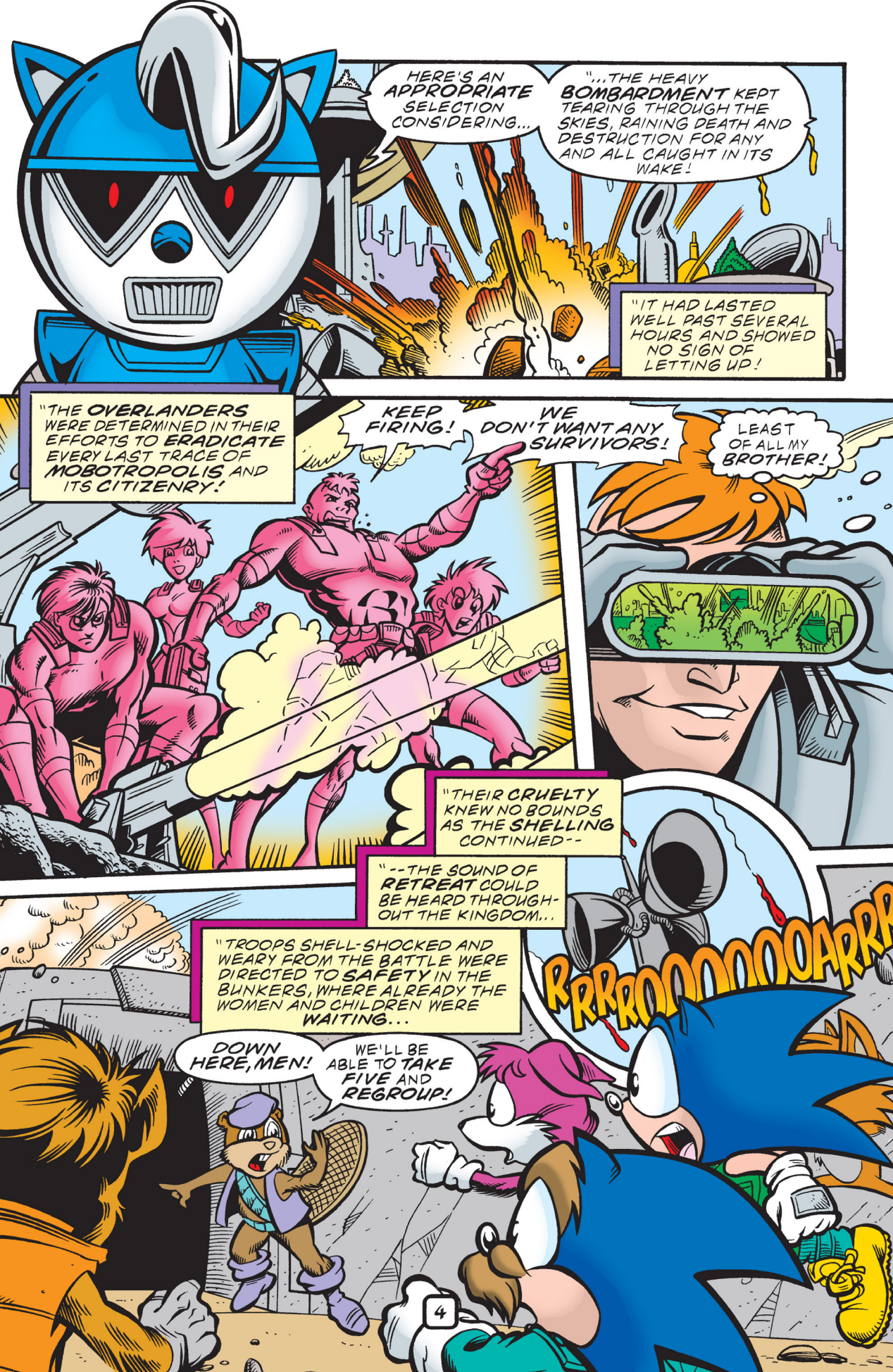
--THE-APPREHENSION-AND-ROBOTIZATION-OF-EVERY-LIVING-CREATURE-ON-THE-FACE-OF-MOBIUS!

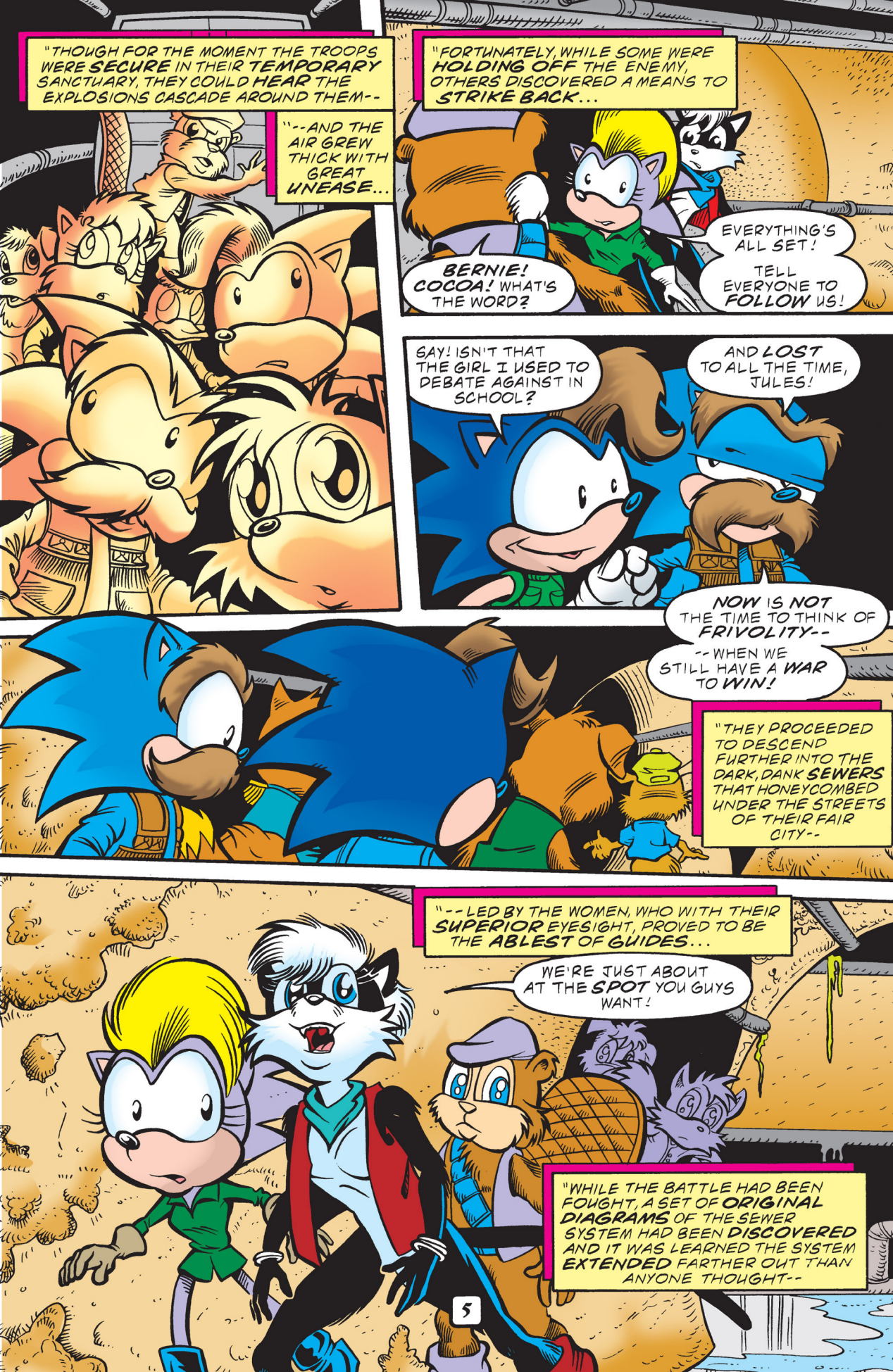
ANOTHER POINT-OF-VIEW

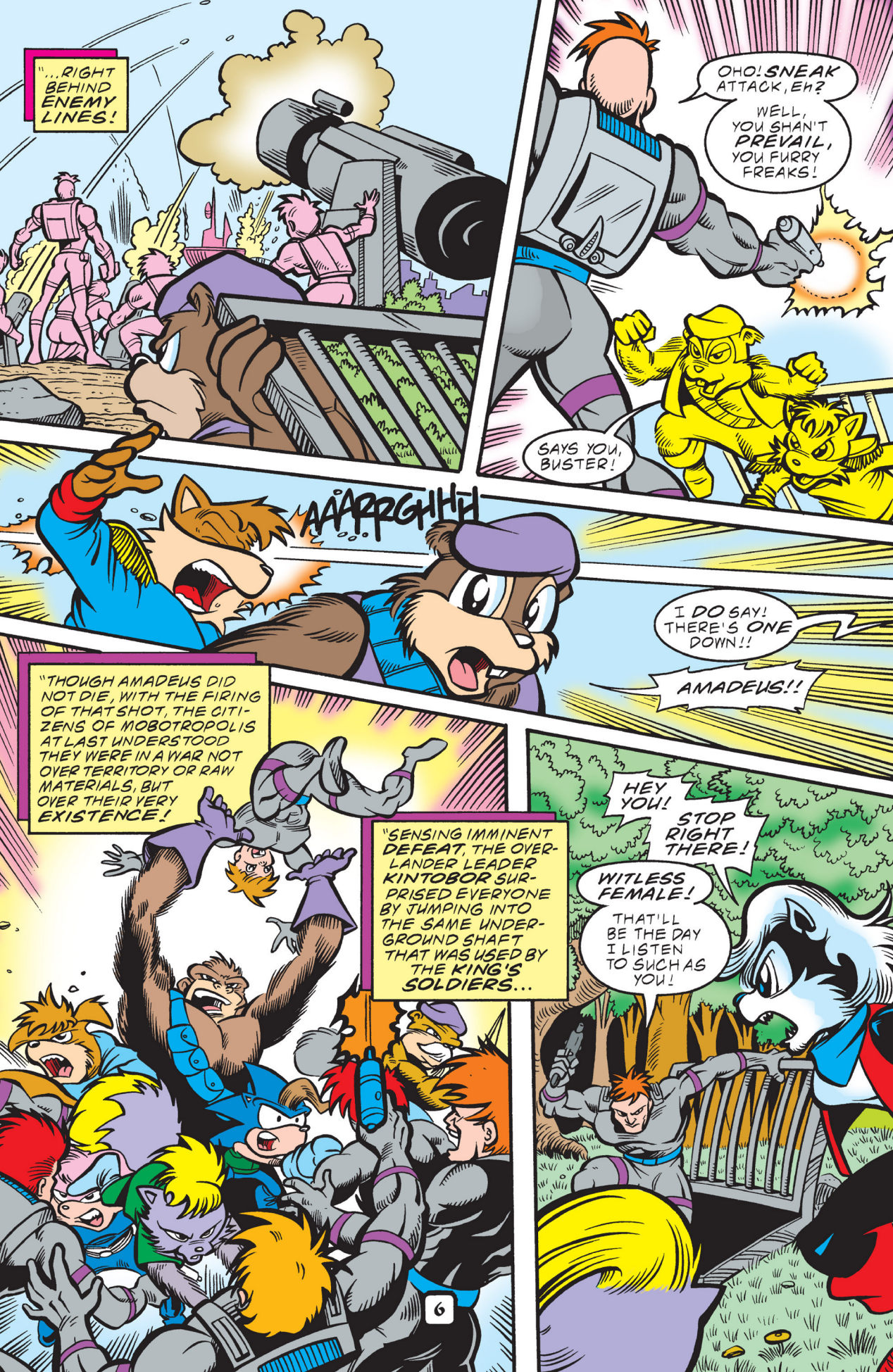
WRITTEN BY
KEN PENDERS
PENCILED BY
CHRIS ALLAN
INKED BY
JIM AMASH
LETTERER BY
JEFF POWELL
COLORED BY
FRANK GAGLIARDO
EDITED BY
J.F. GABRIE

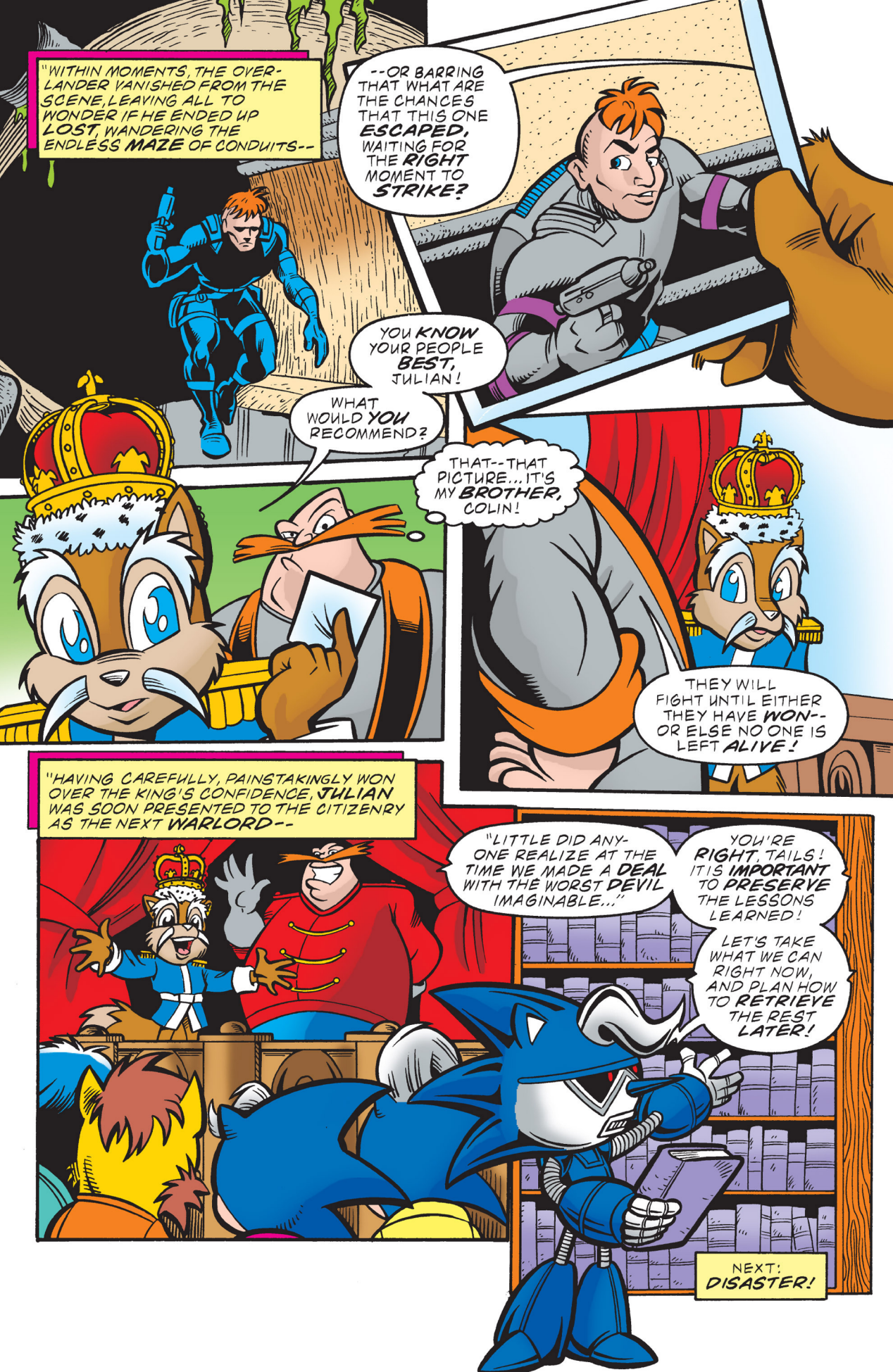

SECTOR-EIGHTY-TWO-SHOWS-ALL-CLEAR.
WE-SHALL-PROCEED-TO-SECTOR-EIGHTY-THREE.
WE WERE LUCKY THAT TIME!
UNFORTUNATELY THEY'RE HEADING IN THE DIRECTION WE WERE PLANNING TO!
WE'LL HAVE TO GO ANOTHER WAY!
WAIT! WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE JEREMIAH!
NOT ONLY THAT--
--BUT WE CAN'T ALLOW THOSE BOOKS TO BE DESTROYED!
HE'S RIGHT, DEAR.
WITH-OUT OUR HISTORY, OUR KNOW-LEDGE--
--OUR CULTURE AND WAY OF LIFE COULD BE LOST!
--WE'D BE NO BETTER THAN THE SWATBOTS WE'RE HIDING FROM!
EXCUSE ME FOR BEING PRACTICAL AT THE MOMENT.
WE CAN'T SAVE A THING IF WE'RE CAPTURED, NOW CAN WE?

IT'S ALMOST TOO QUIET! THIS JEREMIAH COULD'VE ALREADY LEFT!
NO! NO! HE'S GOTTA BE HERE!
JEREMIAH!
TAILS! NO NEED TO SHOUT, MY FRIEND! I WAS JUST FILING SOME BOOKS AWAY AROUND THE CORNER!
WE CAME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE, JEREMIAH!
THEY'RE CHECKING EVERYWHERE! YOU'LL GET CAUGHT AND ROBOTICIZED!
I CAN'T LEAVE, TAILS! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE VOLUMES OF MY GRANDFATHER KIRBY'S WORK?
YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS KIRBY, SON?
I READ HISSTORIES OF OUR PEOPLE WHEN I WAS A YOUNG BOY! THEY WERE AN INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US!
LOOK AT THIS, HON--
--A CHRONICLE OF THOSE DARK DAYS OF THE GREAT WAR!
WHY DON'T YOU READ A PASSAGE, DEAR?
3


HERE'S AN APPROPRIATE SELECTION CONSIDERING...
"...THE HEAVY BOMBARDMENT KEPT TEARING THROUGH THE SKIES, RAINING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION FOR ANY AND ALL CAUGHT IN ITS WAKE!
"IT HAD LASTED WELL PAST SEVERAL HOURS AND SHOWED NO SIGN OF LETTING UP!
"THE OVERLANDERS WERE DETERMINED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ERADICATE EVERY LAST TRACE OF MOBOTROPOLIS AND ITS CITIZENRY!
KEEP FIRING!
WE DON'T WANT ANY SURVIVORS!
LEAST OF ALL MY BROTHER!
"THEIR CRUELTY KNEW NO BOUNDS AS THE SHELLING CONTINUED--
"--THE SOUND OF RETREAT COULD BE HEARD THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM...
"TROOPS SHELL-SHOCKED AND WEARY FROM THE BATTLE WERE DIRECTED TO SAFETY IN THE BUNKERS, WHERE ALREADY THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE WAITING...
RRRROOOOOOARRR
DOWN HERE, MEN!
WE'LL BE ABLE TO TAKE FIVE AND REGROUP!


"THOUGH FOR THE MOMENT THE TROOPS WERE SECURE IN THEIR TEMPORARY SANCTUARY, THEY COULD HEAR THE EXPLOSIONS CASCADE AROUND THEM--
"--AND THE AIR GREW THICK WITH GREAT UNEASE...
"FORTUNATELY, WHILE SOME WERE HOLDING OFF THE ENEMY, OTHERS DISCOVERED A MEANS TO STRIKE BACK...
BERNIE! COCOA! WHAT'S THE WORD?
EVERYTHING'S ALL SET! TELL EVERYONE TO FOLLOW US!
SAY! ISN'T THAT THE GIRL I USED TO DEBATE AGAINST IN SCHOOL?
AND LOST TO ALL THE TIME, JULES!
NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO THINK OF FRIVOLITY--
--WHEN WE STILL HAVE A WAR TO WIN!
"THEY PROCEEDED TO DESCEND FURTHER INTO THE DARK, DANK SEWERS THAT HONEYCOMBED UNDER THE STREETS OF THEIR FAIR CITY--
"--LED BY THE WOMEN, WHO WITH THEIR SUPERIOR EYESIGHT, PROVED TO BE THE ABLEST OF GUIDES...
WE'RE JUST ABOUT AT THE SPOT YOU GUYS WANT!
"WHILE THE BATTLE HAD BEEN FOUGHT, A SET OF ORIGINAL DIAGRAMS OF THE SEWER SYSTEM HAD BEEN DISCOVERED AND IT WAS LEARNED THE SYSTEM EXTENDED FARTHER OUT THAN ANYONE THOUGHT--


"...RIGHT BEHIND ENEMY LINES!
OHO! SNEAK ATTACK, EH?
WELL, YOU SHAN'T PREVAIL, YOU FURRY FREAKS!
SAYS YOU, BUSTER!
AAARRGHHH
I DO SAY! THERE'S ONE DOWN!!
AMADEUS!!
"THOUGH AMADEUS DID NOT DIE, WITH THE FIRING OF THAT SHOT, THE CITIZENS OF MOBOTROPOLIS AT LAST UNDERSTOOD THEY WERE IN A WAR NOT OVER TERRITORY OR RAW MATERIALS, BUT OVER THEIR VERY EXISTENCE!
"SENSING IMMINENT DEFEAT, THE OVERLANDER LEADER KINTOBOR SURPRISED EVERYONE BY JUMPING INTO THE SAME UNDERGROUND SHAFT THAT WAS USED BY THE KING'S SOLDIERS...
HEY YOU! STOP RIGHT THERE!
WITLESS FEMALE!
THAT'LL BE THE DAY I LISTEN TO SUCH AS YOU!


"WITHIN MOMENTS, THE OVER-LANDER VANISHED FROM THE SCENE, LEAVING ALL TO WONDER IF HE ENDED UP LOST, WANDERING THE ENDLESS MAZE OF CONDUITS--
--OR BARRING THAT WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT THIS ONE ESCAPED, WAITING FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO STRIKE?
YOU KNOW YOUR PEOPLE BEST, JULIAN!
WHAT WOULD YOU RECOMMEND?
THAT--THAT PICTURE... IT'S MY BROTHER, COLIN!
THEY WILL FIGHT UNTIL EITHER THEY HAVE WON-- OR ELSE NO ONE IS LEFT ALIVE!
"HAVING CAREFULLY, PAINSTAKINGLY WON OVER THE KING'S CONFIDENCE, JULIAN WAS SOON PRESENTED TO THE CITIZENRY AS THE NEXT WARLORD--
"LITTLE DID ANY-ONE REALIZE AT THE TIME WE MADE A DEAL WITH THE WORST DEVIL IMAGINABLE..."
YOU'RE RIGHT, TAILS! IT IS IMPORTANT TO PRESERVE THE LESSONS LEARNED!
LET'S TAKE WHAT WE CAN RIGHT NOW, AND PLAN HOW TO RETRIEVE THE REST LATER!
NEXT: DISASTER!